

EXAMINER AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephen R. Schaefer, Reg. No. 37,927 on March 22, 2010.

1. The Examiner has amended dependent claim 4 to depend on dependent claim 2.

Dependent claim 4 originally read:

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising a phase of deleting a digest of a public key from the certificates table, comprising steps of deleting from the certificates table the digest of a public key to be removed, and deleting from the certificates table all digests of public keys associated with a pointer indicating the public key to be removed.

After Examiner Amendment dependent claim 4 now reads:

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising a phase of deleting a digest of a public key from the certificates table, comprising steps of deleting from the certificates table the digest of a public key to be removed, and deleting from the certificates table all digests of public keys associated with a pointer indicating the public key to be removed.

2. The Examiner has amended dependent claim 17 to depend on dependent claim 15.

Dependent claim 17 originally read:

17. (Previously presented) The microcircuit according to claim 16, further comprising means for deleting from the certificates table a digest of a public key to be removed, and means for deleting from the certificates table all digests of public keys associated with a pointer indicating the public key to be removed.

After Examiner Amendment dependent claim 17 now reads:

17. (Previously presented) The microcircuit according to claim 15, further comprising means for deleting from the certificates table a digest of a public key to be removed, and means for deleting from the certificates table all digests of public keys associated with a pointer indicating the public key to be removed.

SUPPLEMENTAL REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. The Examiner has considered IDS filed 2/2/2010. The IDS included an English translation of the following:
- a. JP11205308 JP A 1999-07-30 FUKUZAWA et al
 - b. UNKNOWN JAPANESE EXAMINER, Notice of Reasons for Refusal in JP Application 2004-512341 mailed 10 November 2009, 6 pages.

- c. SAKAKIBARA, Verification of Public Key Certificates, Information Processing Society of Japan, 1998, Research Report, IPSJ SIG Notes, 98(54):53-58.

5. The Examiner finds patentability over Fukuzawa et al. (JP11205308) and NPL SAKAKIBARA, in view of applicant's amendment to independent claim 1 and 13 as present on 10/19/2009. The Examiner contends that neither Fukuzawa nor Sakakbara teaches or suggest applicant's newly amended claim limitation element of: "storing a certificates table containing a digest form of at least one public key in a memory in the microcircuit, wherein the public key is inserted into the certificates table by a step that comprises inserting, in the certificates table, a pointer to the digest form of the public key of the certification entity that issued the certificate of the public key, so as to define a certification tree in combination with the inserted digest form of the public key" and the claim limitation element of "calculating a digest form of the received public key and searching for the calculated digest form of the public key in the microcircuit's certificates table, at a location at which the inserted pointer points".

Additionally, the Examiner finds applicant's amendment to independent claims 1 and 13 presented on 10/19/2009 to sufficiently and appropriately address JAPANESE EXAMINER, Notice of Reasons for Refusal in JP Application 2004-512341 mailed 10 November 2009.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-13, 15 and 17-25 are allowed.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRYAN WRIGHT whose telephone number is (571)270-3826. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:30 pm Monday -Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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